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BOROUGH OF DUKINFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1945

W. H. Priestnall & Sons, Borough Printing Works, Dukinfield



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BOROUGH OF DUKINFIELD

Public Health Committee 1945

Chairman : Councillor Bown

Deputy Chairman : Councillor Cooke

The Mayor (Councillor C. N. Fitton)	Councillor A. Hitchen
Alderman A. Ashton	„ J. Howard
„ Broadbent	„ Kenworthy
Councillor Andrew	„ King
„ N. T. Ashton	„ Marshall
„ T. Ashton	„ Shaw
„ H. Brown	„ Shirley
„ Hinchliffe	„ Senior
	„ Turner

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Dukinfield.

To the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dukinfield.

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1945.

I think one of the outstanding needs of the Borough is more and adequate housing. The present state of overcrowding is a grave menace to the health of the Borough, but despite this obvious need, on the whole the health of the Borough is good.

There have been no serious outbreaks of infectious fevers; notable in this respect is the drop in the number of cases of diphtheria, there being only 18 notified cases this year, against 55 last year and I am happy to report that there have been no deaths from diphtheria. This, I think, is in great measure due to the continued progress in immunisation.

That other scourge of our communal life, tuberculosis, though increased in numbers of notified cases (see further sections of my report) does not reveal an increase in the number of deaths.

Of other infectious diseases, measles and whooping cough show an increase, but they are of a mild type.

Last but not least—the relation of the death rate to the birth rate—the death rate is practically the same as last year, though the birth rate has decreased slightly.

For detailed statistics, I would beg to submit the rest of my report.

Commending this report to your notice,

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

GLADYS M. BRICE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Extract from Vital Statistics.

Deaths.

	M.	F.	Total
No. of Deaths ...	144	110	254

Death Rate—14·6

Births.

No. of Live Births	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	125	116	241
Illegitimate ...	14	15	29
TOTAL	139	131	270

No. of Still Births.	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	4	6	10
Illegitimate ...	1	Nil.	1
TOTAL	5	6	11

Birth Rate—16·1.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	5	5	10
Illegitimate ...	1	Nil	1
TOTAL	6	5	11

Infantile Mortality rate—40·7.

Infectious Diseases.

DISEASE	No. of Cases	No. of cases Admitted to Hospital	No. of Deaths
Diphtheria	18	17	—
Erysipelas	7	1	—
Scarlet Fever and Scarletina ...	17	11	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	5	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	24	3	1*
Measles	52	—	—

* N.B.—Suffering from broncho-pneumonia in addition to whooping cough.

Tuberculosis.

Pulmonary—

No. of new cases notified	13
No. of deaths (old and new cases)	7

Non-Pulmonary—

No. of new cases notified	3
No. of deaths (old and new cases)	—

There has been a substantial increase in the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified, which may, in part, be due to better methods of detection (i.e. Mass Radiography) than to the prevalence of the disease itself.

Infectious Diseases—Classification

AGE	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Sc. Fever/Scarletina	Pulmonary T.B.	Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Whooping Cough	Oph. Neonatorum	Measles/German Meas.	Pneumonia	All Diseases
Under 1 year						3	1	12		16
Age 1 year	1		2			7		10		20
Age 2 years	1		1			5		14		21
Age 3 years			2			2		9		13
Age 4 years	3					5		5		13
5-9 years	4		11			2		2	1	20
10-14 years	3		1		1					5
15-19 years	2			2	1					5
20-34 years	3	2		9	1				1	16
35-44 years	1									1
45-64 years		3		1					2	6
65 years and over		2		1					1	4
TOTAL ...	18	7	17	13	3	24	1	52	5	140

Cases of Diphtheria—Classification

	Sex		Iso- lation		School, Employment, etc.									Total
AGE	Female	Male	Hospital	Home	Under Sch. age	Globe Lane	Lakes Road	Cres. Rd. Inf.	Old Chapel	St. Mary's	Moravian	Hyde C.C.	Over Sch. age	
1 year	1		1					1						1
3 years		1	1		1									1
5 years	1		1					1						1
8 years	2		2						1		1			2
9 years	1	1	1	1		1			1					2
10 years		1	1							1				1
13 years		1	1							1				1
14 years	1		1				1							1
15 years	1		1									1		1
17 years	2		2										2	2
23 years	1		1										1	1
25 years	1		1										1	1
28 years	1		1										1	1
29 years	1		1										1	1
37 years	1		1										1	1
	14	4	17	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	7	18

**List of Deaths occurring in and belonging to the
Borough of Dukinfield during the year 1945**

CAUSE						MALES	FEMALES
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cancer and other malignant diseases	...	...	...	...	...	25	18
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	12	10
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	40	43
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	17	11
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4	—
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	13	3
						144	110

Milk Supply

There are 8 Graded Farms in the Borough and 7 Non-graded Farms. The County Public Health Inspectors examined samples of milk from the Graded Farms but not from the Non-graded Farms.

The question of the milk supply for England is undergoing radical changes and I hope that there will be some legislation in Parliament in the near future to provide a better check on the milk supply.

So far, no milk samples taken in the Borough have shown any Tuberculosis.

Water Supply.

The water supply has been entirely satisfactory during the year. Two samples of water have been taken for Chemical Analysis and 48 samples for bacteriological examination, all of which were quite satisfactory.

(i) The quality and quantity have both been satisfactory.

(ii) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION of piped supplies.

Type of Water	Samples taken	Results
Raw	None	—
Filtered water taken directly after filtration	36	Quite satisfactory
Filtered water — tap samples taken at various points in the Borough	12	Quite satisfactory

(iii) PLUMBO SOLVENCY—Calcium Carbonate added before filtration. *No samples taken.*

(iv) No form of CONTAMINATION has presented itself.

(v) POPULATION SUPPLIED from public water mains :

- (a) Direct to Houses ... 19,200 (estimated).
- (b) By mean of standpipes—*none.*

Chemical Samples

Supply					Brushes	Swineshaw
Filtrate Main Tap Samples taken at					Brushes filters	Brushes filters
Date	...	...	...	...	16/1/45	17/7/45
Time	...	...	...	...	10 a.m.	10 a.m.
Lab. No.	...	...	...	...	A 815	A 856
pH value	...	...	...	...	8.7	9.1
Colour in 2 ft. glass tube mm Hazen sol.					7	4

Analysis					Grains per Imp. Gallon	
Total solids dried at 110°C...						
Suspended solids dried at 110°C						
Free Acidity as CO ₂ ...					nil	nil
Free Alkalinity					0.14	0.039
Combined Alkalinity					0.58	0.66
Hardness by Soap test						
Carbonate Hardness ...					0.6	0.7
Non-Carbonate Hardness ...					3.9	3.5
Total...					4.5	4.2
Combines Chlorine CL ₂ ...					1.20	1.25
Nitrates—Nitric Nitrogen as N ₂ ...					0.004	0.003
Nitrates—Nitrous Nitrogen as N ₂ ...					0.0006	0.0003
Free and Saline Ammonia					0.0048	0.0005
Albuminoid Ammonia					0.0033	0.0286
Oxygen absorbed Test						
4 hours at 27°C... ..					0.036	0.010
Iron in solution						
Total Iron					less than	
Manganese					0.004	0.004
Other Metals						
Silica (SiO ₂)					0.63	0.60
Residual Alumina (AL ₂ O ₃) ...					0.011	0.006
Alumina as Sulphate of Alumina ...					0.08	0.04

REPORT.—These samples are quite satisfactory.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

This service continues to be administered by the Cheshire County Council.

Venereal Diseases.

Cheshire County Council are responsible for the administration of this service. Some cases are treated at the Manchester Hospitals but the majority of Dukinfield patients attend Ashton-under-Lyne Infirmary.

Scabies.

During the year, there has been a decrease in the incidence of this disease. This condition should gradually die out with the end of the war and as overcrowding conditions become less.

	M.	F.	Total
No. of cases treated during 1945	5	12	17

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Cheshire County Council are continuing their immunisation drive with unabated vigour.

No. of children immunised during 1945

Under 5 years old ... 114

Age 5 to 15 years ... 23

Total 137

No. of cases of Diphtheria in children
under 15 years of age ... 10

No. of cases in which the child is
known to have completed the course
of immunisation not less than 12 weeks
before the onset of the disease ... 8

There were NO deaths in the Borough resulting from Diphtheria
during 1945.

GLADYS M. BRICE,

Medical Officer of Health,

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1945

During the year 842 complaints were received at the Public Health Office which were investigated and dealt with.

The work of disinfection and disinfestation of rooms, releasing blocked drainage, gullies, etc., cleansing of Public Conveniences, and the sale of disinfectants is carried out by one workman who is employed solely by this Department.

The following work was carried out during the year:

Rooms disinfected—infectious disease ...	...	78
„ disinfested—verminous premises ...	...	145—223
Releasing of blocked W.C.'s ...	...	1263
„ „ „ house gullies ...	...	2659
„ „ „ house drains ...	...	3919—7841

NOTICES SERVED.

No. of Informal notices served. Public Health Act	199
No. of Informal notices complied with do. ...	170
No. of Statutory notices served. Public Health Act	8
No. of Statutory notices complied with do. ...	7

Visits and Inspections

GENERAL SANITATION.

Drainage ...	...	199
Water Supply ...	...	21
Bakehouses ...	...	55
Public Conveniences ...	...	55
Factories and Workshops ...	...	11
Cinemas ...	...	7
Rats and Mice ...	...	1779
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits ...	...	128—2255

HOUSING—Public Health Act, 1936.

No. of Primary Visits under the Act ...	...	189
No. of re-inspections under the Act ...	...	798
Inspections—verminous premises ...	...	6
Re-inspections—verminous premises ...	...	14
Miscellaneous Housing Visits ...	...	40—1047

Visits and Inspections—continued

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses, (visits to)	...	...	...	...	181
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	15
Greengrocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	1
Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	20
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	3— 235

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

No. of Primary Investigations	...	...	...	28
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	10— 38

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS ... 3575

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects, (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 235
- (b) Number of inspections made for this purpose ... 802
2. Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 207
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 5

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ... 170

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.—

No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which informal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... 199

Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices —

- (a) By Owners ... 7
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

Milk Supply

No milk samples were taken by this Department during 1945. Milk sampling was undertaken by the County Council's Inspectors.

Rats and Mice Destruction

The Local Authority is acting as agent for the Cheshire County Council. No serious major infestation has occurred during 1945. During the year the sewers were disinfested by Messrs. Coates Brothers, of Timperley.

Farms

There are 15 Farms in the Borough. One farm continues to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk, seven farms produce Accredited Milk and the remainder are non-graded.

All have been regularly inspected.

Meat Inspection

The system of Joint Meat Inspection continues to be satisfactory. There are two Slaughterhouses in the town. At the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse cattle, sheep and calves are killed; at the other Slaughterhouse pigs only are killed.

The following tables show the number of cattle, etc. inspected by me during the year 1945 and the weight of meat and offals destroyed.

ANIMALS INSPECTED.

Cows	...	...	...	...	...	953
Heifers	...	...	...	...	...	95
Bulls and Bullocks	...	...	...	...	...	243
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	745
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	3684
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	224
						<hr/> 5944 <hr/>

Meat and Offals Destroyed—Summary

TUBERCULAR—

Carcases and part carcases—cattle	...	...	...	...	26,128 lbs.
Carcases—pigs	...	...	...	...	500 lbs.
Offals, etc.—cattle	...	...	...	...	16,151 lbs.
Offals, etc.—pigs	...	...	...	...	357 lbs.
TOTAL					<hr/> 43,136 lbs. <hr/>

Meat Inspection—continued

Meat and Offals Destroyed—Summary

NON-TUBERCULAR—

Carcases and part carcases—cattle	...	...	1,233 lbs.
Carcases—sheep	...	...	54 lbs.
Offals, etc.—cattle	...	...	3,373 lbs.
Offals, etc.—sheep	...	...	284 lbs.
Offals, etc.—pigs	...	...	14 lbs.
TOTAL			<u>4,958 lbs.</u>

Meat and Offals Destroyed—Detail

TUBERCULAR—

Carcases and all organs of 49 cows	Generalised Tuberculosis
" " 2 heifers	Localised " "
Part carcasses of ... 26 cows	Localised Tuberculosis
" " 3 heifers	" "
Carcase and all organs of 2 pigs	Generalised Tuberculosis
TOTAL WEIGHT ... 26,628 lbs.	

NON-TUBERCULAR—

Carcase and all organs of 1 cow	Multiple Abscesses
" " 1 cow	Dropsy
" " 3 calves	Dropsy
" " 1 sheep	Dropsy
Part carcasses of ... 2 cows	Bruising
" " 1 cow	Bone Taint
" " 2 cows	Abscesses
TOTAL WEIGHT ... 1,287 lbs.	

TUBERCULAR OFFALS, ETC.—CATTLE

Heads and Tongues	... 186—5,451 lbs.
Pairs of Lungs	... 446—4,250 lbs.
Livers	... 111—1,245 lbs.
Diaphragms	... 80— 195 lbs.
Hearts	... 37— 116 lbs.
Spleens	... 46— 82 lbs.
Bellies, Rops and Fat	... 212—4,539 lbs.
Udders	... 20— 273 lbs.—16151 lbs.

TUBERCULAR OFFALS, ETC.—Pigs

Lungs	... 14—141 lbs.
Heads and Tongues	... 11—216 lbs.— 357 lbs.

Meat Inspection—continued

NON-TUBERCULAR OFFALS, ETC.—CATTLE

Heads and Tongues	1—Abscesses —	42 lbs.
Hearts	16—Pericarditis	77 lbs.
Lungs, pairs of ...	9—Cysts	78 lbs.
Tails	3—Bruising	6 lbs.
Skirts	3—Bruising	6 lbs.
Bellies, Rops and Fat	1—Abscesses	92 lbs.
Kidneys	2—Abscesses	3 lbs.
Kidneys	2—Nephritis	2 lbs.
Udders	16—Mastitis	566 lbs.
Livers	2—Fatty degen.	24 lbs.
Livers	68—Angioma	867 lbs.
Livers	18—Ech. Cysts	238 lbs.
Livers	57—Cirrhosis	738 lbs.
Livers	52—Abscesses	634 lbs.—3,373 lbs.

NON-TUBERCULAR OFFALS, ETC.—SHEEP

Livers	132—Flukes	268 lbs.
Livers	11—Cysts	10 lbs.
Lungs, pairs of ...	2—Ech Cysts	6 lbs.— 284 lbs.

NON-TUBERCULAR OFFALS, ETC.—PIGS

Belly, Rops and Fat	1—Inflammation	14 lbs.— 14 lbs.
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LESLIE BUCKLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

